

the differentiation of various disorders; this is the major criticism that the reviewer offers.

The book in general can be recommended as an interesting and personal discussion of differential diagnosis documented by case histories and reflecting largely continental opinion, although the American point of view is also presented.

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**HANDBOOK OF PEDIATRIC MEDICAL EMERGENCIES.** By Adolph G. DeSanctis, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, Postgraduate Medical School, New York University-Bellevue Medical Center; and Charles Varga, M.D., Instructor in Pediatrics, Postgraduate Medical School, New York University-Bellevue Medical Center. 51 illustrations. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1951. 284 pages. \$5.00.

This book had its beginning as a guide to the resident staff of the hospitals with which Dr. DeSanctis is associated and as a compendium for use in the pediatric courses of the Postgraduate Medical School. In these capacities it underwent several revisions, culminating in a privately printed edition.

The present volume is the outgrowth of this earlier material. It is therefore better organized and more complete than might be the case were it an initial effort of the authors.

There is a chapter each devoted to cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, genito-urinary, neurological, and respiratory emergencies. There is also a chapter each on drowning, poisoning, care of the premature infant, and miscellaneous emergencies.

The final chapter is an illustrated one on pediatric procedures. The book completely fulfills the purpose for which it was written and should be useful to pediatricians and others seeing infants and children in their practice.

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**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF OBSTETRICS—10th Edition.** By J. P. Greenhill, M.D., Attending Obstetrician and Gynecologist, the Michael Reese Hospital; Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Associate Staff, the Chicago Lying-In Hospital; Professor of Gynecology, Cook County Graduate School of Medicine. (Originally by Joseph B. DeLee.) 1,140 illustrations, 194 in color. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1951. 1,020 pages. \$12.00.

In this tenth edition of DeLee's "Obstetrics" Greenhill appears for the first time as the sole author, although DeLee's name still is retained on the back of the cover, beneath that of Greenhill. On the title page it is noted that the text originally was written by Joseph B. DeLee but he is not otherwise identified except in the last line of the preface, where he is called "one of the greatest obstetricians of all time." When it is time for the next edition of this important work, the author and publishers might consider including a brief biographical sketch of DeLee, at least to the extent of a paragraph in the preface, because by then the book will be read by many with no first-hand knowledge of how obstetrics blossomed in the Chicago area early in the twentieth century under this master's leadership.

It is regrettable that Greenhill has permitted the size of the new edition to exceed that of its predecessor by some nine pages instead of making a drastic cut in total bulk. While it is true that many deletions have been made, the gaps have been more than filled by new material. The author states that he has "practically rewritten the entire book" and that "not a single page remains as it was." In a way this is true, but only in the sense that the material has been physically rearranged with respect to positioning on the various pages. Obviously the major portion of the text has not been changed because obstetrical practice is not appreciably different from what it was in 1947. A glance

at the table of contents would suggest drastic changes in the new edition but one soon discovers that this results merely from the extirpation of fifty per cent of the "section" numbers and two of the chapter numbers. There has been a certain amount of amalgamation of old chapter headings, as well as the insertion of two new chapters, one by Helene Deutsch dealing with the psychology of pregnancy and one to accommodate vomiting of pregnancy, the discussion of which logically has been removed from the chapter on toxemias. The format of the table of contents has been improved greatly by better spacing and more attractive type, and throughout the book there are evidences of increased spacing between words so that the pages appear less crowded.

All of the recent advances in obstetric thinking and practice appear to have been included, and certainly this volume continues to merit its position as one of the most popular American reference works on obstetrics. There would seem to be little need to say more about a book which has been a best-seller for almost 40 years.

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**THERAPY OF DERMATOLOGIC DISORDERS—Including a Guide to Diagnosis and a Dermatologic Pharmacopeia.** By Samuel M. Peck, M.D., Dermatologist to the Mount Sinai Hospital; Associate Clinical Professor of Dermatology, Columbia University; and George Klein, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Dermatology, New York Medical College. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1951. 383 pages. \$6.50.

A unique approach to the treatment of skin disorders that is of great value to both the general physician and the dermatologist.

An unusual feature of the book, particularly helpful to the non-specialist, consists of topographical charts showing, by means of a code, the skin disorders most commonly seen in any given location. After referring to the code and the indicated diagnosis the reader will find a concise description of the disease and its treatment.

The dermatologist will be more interested in the last third of the book which is an excellent dermatologic pharmacopeia. Practically all of the drugs, both old and new, which are used in treating dermatologic disorders are discussed as to origin, action and use. Many valuable prescriptions are given.

A separate chapter by William Leifer briefly summarizes the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases.

This book is a valuable aid to anyone interested in the dermatoses.

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**REVIEW OF PHYSIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY.** By Harold A. Harper, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, University of San Francisco, Lecturer in Surgery, University of California School of Medicine. Third Edition. University Medical Publishers, P.O. Box 761, Palo Alto. 260 pages. \$3.50.

This small and economically published book fulfills the author's stated intentions in that it concisely presents fundamentals of physiological chemistry with attention to their application to medicine. Controversial topics and certain very recent advances have been avoided altogether or noted but briefly. The field is satisfactorily reviewed.

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#### Correction:

The price of "Atlas of Human Anatomy," Volumes I and II, by M. W. Woerdeman, published by the Blakiston Company, Philadelphia, is \$5.50 per volume and \$11 per set. In the notice accompanying the review published in the August issue of CALIFORNIA MEDICINE, the price was given incorrectly as \$10 per volume, \$18 per set.